## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /078 W

-----121019 060855Z/15

R 060828Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0993
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CONFIDENTIAL TOKYO 16062

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PEPR, JA, KS

SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY OF FUKUDA-PAK SUMMIT MEETING

REF: A. SEOUL 7863; B. TOKYO 15840

1. MOFA NE ASIA OFFICIALS CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 5
THAT FONMIN SONODA HAD INDEED CONVEYED PERSONAL MESSAGE
FROM PM FUKUDA TO PRESIDENT PAK ON DESIRABILITY OF SUMMIT
MEETING (REF A). NE ASIA DIVDIR SATO SAID DECISION TO
CONVEY MESSAGE WAS TAKEN SOLELY BY PM, WITHOUT REFERENCE
TO BUREAUCRACY, AND SATO HIMSELF LEARNED OF MESSAGE ONLY
AFTER ARRIVAL IN SEOUL WITH FONMIN. (VICE FONMIN ARITA
CONFIRMED TO DCM THAT MOFA WAS NOT INVOLVED IN MESSAGE.)
MOFA OFFICIALS ALSO INSISTED THAT, CONTRARY TO PRESS
REPORTS, NO TIMING HAD BEEN DISCUSSED.

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2. NE ASIA DEPUTY DIRECTOR MOCHIZUKI SAID PM'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT PAK WAS SIMILAR IN TONE AND CONTENT TO PM'S STATEMENT DURING INTERVIEW BY KOREAN NATIONAL TV NETWORK IN MID-AUGUST THAT IT WAS UNNATURAL FOR TWO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES NOT TO HAVE TOP-LEVEL CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER (REF B). MESSAGE REPORTEDLY WENT ON TO SAY FUKUDA HOPED, WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES IN JAPAN WERE "FULLY MATURE," THAT PM

OF JAPAN WOULD BE ABLE TO VISIT PRESIDENT OF ROK.
MOCHIZUKI SAID THAT ONLY REFERENCE TO TIMING WAS PM'S
OBSERVATION THAT DECEMBER WOULD NOT BE CONVENIENT IN VIEW
OF MANY ACTIVITIES IN SEOUL IN CONNECTION WITH PRESIDENTIAL
INAUGURATION.

3. COMMENT: MOFA CONTINUES TO SEE LITTLE BENEFIT FROM JAPAN-ROK SUMMIT AND IS NO DOUBT SOMEWHAT MIFFED AT NOT BEING INFORMED OF PM'S DECISION TO GO AHEAD WITH SUMMIT PROPOSAL. SUMMIT PROPOSAL FOLLOWS SERIES OF NODS TO RIGHT BY FUKUDA IN WAKE OF PFT SIGNING WHICH ARE PROBABLY IN PART DESIGNED TO ENSURE CONTINUED SUPPORT BY LDP RIGHTWING IN HIS BID FOR REELECTION AS PARTY PRESIDENT (AND AUTOMATICALLY PRIME MINISTER) IN DECEMBER. ALTHOUGH THIS PROPOSAL WILL UNDOUBTEDLY PROVOKE OPPOSITION CRITICISM IN EXTRAORDINARY DIET TO BE CONVENED LATER THIS MONTH, FUKUDA MAY HAVE MADE POLITICAL JUDGMENT THAT, WITH OVERALL POSITION STRENGTHENED BY HANDLING OF PFT, THIS MIGHT BE PROPITIOUS TIME TO MAKE GESTURE TOWARD MORE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH ROK. MANSFIELD

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: POSSIBILITY OF FUKUDA-PAK SUMMIT MEETING TAGS: PEPR, JA, KS, (PARK CHUNG HEE), (FUKADA, TAKEO)

To: STATE Type: TE

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